

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

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DRAFTED BY EUR/ SOV: JJKADILIS: AB

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APPROVED BY EUR: WSTOESSEL

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

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E. O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, MCAP, US, UR

SUBJECT: BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

1. MINISTER COUNSELOR VORONTSOV OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY
CAME AT HIS REQUEST ON APRIL 5 TO SEE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
STOESSEL REGARDING THE RATIFICATION OF THE BIOLOGICAL
WEAPONS CONVENTION. APPARENTLY ANXIOUS TO GET ON TO
ANOTHER SUBJECT, VORONTSOV HANDED STOESSEL A NOTE IN
RUSSIAN, WITHOUT THE CUSTOMARY READING IN ENGLISH. HE
MADE NO COMMENTS, OTHER THAN TO IDENTIFY THE SUBJECT
AND TO ASK THAT WE GIVE A REPLY.

2. WE WILL SEND A FULL TRANSLATION OF THE NOTE SEPTEL.
THE GIST OF IT IS THAT THE SOVIETS ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE
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TO COMPLETING THE RATIFICATION PROCESS, AND ARE TAKING STEPS TO DO SO THEMSELVES. IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE, THE NOTE STATES, FOR THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE PRACTICAL STEPS TO SPEED UP THE RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION. STOESSEL THANKED VORONTSOV FOR THE NOTE, AND REMARKED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME DELAY IN THE SENATE BUT THAT WE STILL HOPED FOR AN EARLY CONCLUSION OF THE RATIFICATION PROCESS. HE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PREDICT WHEN THIS WOULD HAPPEN, BUT THAT THE SOVIET STATEMENT WOULD BE USEFUL IN THIS REGARD. STOESSEL ADDED THAT IT WAS A GOOD IDEA TO KEEP IN TOUCH ON THIS MATTER. ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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